

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 0323

FOR EUR/RPM AND EUR/SOV FROM USDEL CSCE

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, OCON
SUBJ: NATO HEADS OF DELEGATION CAUCUS, JANUARY 16 --
BELGRADE CSCE

REF: COPENHAGEN 0227

1. SUMMARY. FIRST NATO HEADS OF DELEGATION CAUCUS AFTER
HOLIDAY RECESS WAS HELD AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 16 UNDER
CANADIAN CHAIRMANSHIP. MAJOR TOPICS DISCUSSED WERE THE
CONCLUDING DOCUMENT AND TACTICS TO BE USED IN ATTAINING IT,
THE NEXT FOLLOW-UP MEETING, AND CBMS. END SUMMARY.

2. CONCLUDING DOCUMENT: ON BEHALF OF EC, DANISH REP (MELBIN)
INTRODUCED PAPER ON PRESENT STATE OF WORK OF BELGRADE MEETING
APPROVED BY NINE IN EARLY JANUARY (SEE REFTEL). FOUR OPTIONS
RE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT PRESENTED IN LATTER SECTION THIS
PAPER SERVE TO FOCUS CAUCUS DISCUSSION OF THIS TOPIC.

3. UK REP (PARSONS) URGED THAT ALLIES MAKE DETERMINED
EFFORT TO NEGOTIATE LONG AND SUBSTANTIVE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT,
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BUT STATED UK COULD LIVE WITH SHORT DOCUMENT IF IT MET
WESTERN INTERESTS. FRG REP (FISCHER) NOTED LENGTH OF
CONCLUDING DOCUMENT WAS NOT REAL ISSUE; ALLIED CRITERION
SHOULD BE WHETHER DOCUMENT WAS SUBSTANTIVE OR NON-
SUBSTANTIVE. HE WARNED AGAINST ACCEPTANCE OF BEAUTIFUL
SOUNDING DOCUMENT ACCEPTABLE TO SOVIETS, BUT CONTAINING
PLATITUDES. FRENCH REP (RICHER) STATED THAT CONFERENCE

THUS FAR WAS A SUCCESS FROM WESTERN POINT OF VIEW AND THAT ALLIES SHOULD NOT BE DISTURBED IF ONLY A SHORT DOCUMENT WAS ATTAINABLE, AS LONG AS SUBSTANCE WAS THERE. CANADIAN REP (DELWORTH) OPTED STRONGLY FOR OPTION ONE IN EC PAPER, I.E., NEGOTIATION OF A LONG AND SUBSTANTIVE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT. AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG AGREED WITH FRG AND FRENCH REPS. THAT ESSENTIAL POINT WAS SUBSTANCE CONTAINED IN CONCLUDING DOCUMENT AND NOT ITS LENGTH. HE SUGGESTED NEGOTIATING GROUP COMPRISED OF DANISH/EC REP, FRG REP, AND NORWEGIAN REP BE FORMED TO HANDLE DETAILS OF NEGOTIATION OF CONCLUDING DOCUMENT FOR ALLIES.

4. FURTHER FOLLOW-UP: SEVERAL REPS NOTED AUSTRIANS HAD MADE DEMARCHES IN CAPITALS RELATING TO SITE AND LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION AT NEXT FOLLOW-UP MEETING. AUSTRIANS HAD OFFERED VIENNA AS SITE IF MADRID DID NOT RECEIVE CONSENSUS. (AT PLENARY JANUARY 17 SOVIETS AND POLES STATED THEY NOW FAVORED MADRID AS SITE, THUS MAKING CONSENSUS ON MADRID VERY LIKELY.) ALL REPS WHO SPOKE STATED THEY TOLD AUSTRIANS THEIR GOVERNMENTS STRONGLY FAVORED MADRID AS SITE, WITH A NATO OR WP CAPITAL AS FALL-BACK NOT VIENNA.

5. RE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION AT NEXT MEETING, ALLIES WERE SOMEWHAT DIVIDED BUT ALL AGREED THERE WAS NO NEED TO DECIDE THIS ISSUE AT THIS TIME. DANES DO
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NOT FAVOR NEXT MEETING BEING HELD AT FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL. BY CONTRAST, FRG INITIAL VIEW IS THAT FONMIN PARTICIPATION AT NEXT MEETING WOULD BE USEFUL, AND THAT CONSIDERATION SHOULD ALSO BE GIVEN TO HOLDING MEETING AT CHIEF OF STATE LEVEL IN INTERIM BETWEEN FOLLOW-UP MEETINGS. NORWEGIAN REP (MEVIK) STRONGLY OPPOSED DECIDING ANYTHING ON THIS ISSUE NOW AND STATED NORWAY FAVORED FLEXIBILITY CONTAINED IN EC PAPER RE THIS ISSUE. AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG STATED US ALSO FAVORED NON-SPECIFIC FORMULA ON LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION ISSUE THAT WOULD ALLOW DECISION AT LATER DATE BASED UPON STATE OF EAST/WEST RELATIONS AT THAT TIME.

6. CBMS: FRG REP PRESSED HARD FOR US AGREEMENT TO TABLING OF COMPOSIT CBM PAPER. AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG STATED HE HOPED TO HAVE WASHINGTON INSTRUCTIONS TO JOIN OTHERS IN TABLING COMPOSIT PAPER IN VERY NEAR FUTURE. SEVERAL REPS STATED THAT WERE THE ALLIES TO ACCEPT THE BREZHNEV PROPOSALS EVEN IN PART, THE WEST SHOULD DEMAND A MAJOR TRADE-OFF FOR THIS ACTION. MOREOVER, ALLIES SHOULD BEGIN NOW TO ASK SOVIETS FOR FURTHER DETAILS OF THEIR MANUEVER CEILING PROPOSAL. (COMMENT: THIS DISCUSSION MAY BE

ACADEMIC SINCE SOVIETS, IN PLENARY JANUARY 17, TABLED
CONCLUDING DOCUMENT LANGUAGE (SEPTTEL) CALLING FOR
CONSULTATIONS IN JANUARY, 1979 ON INTER ALIA, CBM MATTERS.
SOVIETS MAY NOT, THEREFORE, CONTINUE TO PRESS THEIR INDIVIDUAL
CBM PROPOSALS AT BELGRADE.)

7. FRENCH REP MADE PLEA FOR ALLIES TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY THEIR
OVERALL OBJECTIVES IN CBMS AREA AND RESTATED FRENCH OBJECTIONS
TO FIXING MANEUVER NOTIFICATION THRESHOLD AT 10,000 MEN. HE
NOTED HOWEVER, THAT FRENCH MIGHT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT STRENGTHENING
THE COMMITMENT TO NOTIFICATION OF MANEUVERS INVOLVING LESS
THAN 25,000 MEN IF NO SPECIFIC NOTIFICATION LEVEL WERE
CITED IN CONCLUDING DOCUMENT. CANADIAN REP STATED HIS
AUTHORITIES GAVE HIGH PRIORITY TO NEGOTIATING A LOWER MANEUVER
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NOTIFICATION THRESHOLD AT BELGRADE AND WOULD BE PREPARED
IF NECESSARY TO LEAVE THE MOVEMENT NOTIFICATION PROPOSAL TO
LATER NEGOTIATION. UK REP STATED THAT, IN LUNCHING WITH
HUNGARIAN REP IN BUDAPEST DURING CHRISTMAS RECESS, PETRAN HAD
MENTIONED CBMS AS FAVORABLE AREA OF COMPROMISE BETWEEN EAST AND
WEST AND STATED IT WAS NOT UP TO SOVIETS TO GIVE MORE
PRECISION TO THEIR PROPOSAL.
GOLDBETHG

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